

LOOKING BACK OVER THEIR SHOULDERS: A QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF PORTUGUESE TEACHERS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS STATISTICS

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ABSTRACT

Teachers' attitudes towards statistics can have a significant effect on their own statistical training, their teaching of statistics, and the future attitudes of their students. The influence of attitudes in teaching statistics in different contexts was previously studied in the work of Estrada et al. (2004, 2010a, 2010b) and Martins et al. (2011). This work is part of a broader study of Portuguese education teachers and statistics. In the current paper, we use a qualitative content analysis of survey responses from Portuguese first-stage in-service teachers, focusing on nine open-ended items extracted from the Escala de Actitudes hacia la Estadística de Estrada (Estrada, 2002). These responses allow us to investigate teachers' attitudes towards statistics, and their reasons and motivations for holding these attitudes.

Keywords: *Statistics education research; Scales of attitudes; Teachers' training*

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